



Brownfields 2005 Grant Fact Sheet

Cuyahoga County, OH

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

Cuyahoga County was selected to receive two brownfields assessment grants. Cuyahoga County has the largest population of any Ohio county, with 1,393,978 residents. The most recent economic recession has had a serious impact on county residents and businesses. Between 2000 and 2004, the county lost 63,900 jobs, which represents more than eight percent of its employment base. Cleveland, a federally designated Empowerment Zone in the heart of Cuyahoga County, has been particularly impacted by the loss of jobs in the area. Cleveland has the highest poverty rate, 31.3 percent, of all of the nation's large metropolitan areas. Nearly one-half of the city's children live in poverty. Cuyahoga has identified an estimated 18,000 brownfields properties that cover more than 4,600



Assessment Grants

New
2005

\$200,000 for hazardous substances
\$200,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected Cuyahoga County for two brownfields assessment grants. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to support community outreach activities and perform Phase I and II environmental site assessments on properties throughout the county. Petroleum funds will be used to perform the same tasks at sites with potential petroleum contamination. These funds will help sustain the county's existing Brownfield Redevelopment Fund Community Assessment Initiative program.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team
312-886-7576

<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: Cuyahoga County, OH
216-443-8064

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

acres, mostly in Cleveland and its first-ring suburban communities. With little developable land remaining, Cuyahoga will become the only fully developed county in Ohio within the next decade. Since 2000, more than 1,500 jobs have been created or retained on former county brownfields sites. Assessment and cleanup of additional brownfields properties will help Cuyahoga continue this momentum to retain and create jobs, increase earnings and property values, and reduce public health risks to county residents.